

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 AID-20 L-03 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

SS-20 OMB-01 XMB-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SSO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 INRE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 DRC-01

/126 W

----- 008965

O 021530Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9734

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AF/W FOR AMBASSADOR TODMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : EAID GV US

SUBJECT : PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 088773

STATE 089429

1. FOLLOWING A REQUEST FOR A MEETING WITH MINISTER OF EXCHANGES, CHARGE WAS CONVOKED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKO EARLY MORNING MAY 2. CHARGE AGAIN EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO SIGN AGREEMENT IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER THAT ALL COMMODITIES COULD BE SHIPPED BEFORE JUNE 30; ALSO THAT SIGNATURE WOULD IN NO WAY PREJUDICE OR JEOPARDIZE THE GUINEAN REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL AID. PER REFTELS, CHARGE REQUESTED THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO PROVIDE THE EMBASSY WITH THE DEBT PAYMENT TIMETABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKO SAID HE UNDERSTOOD OUR POSITION AND PROMISED TO INFORM PRESIDENT TOURE OF THY NEED TO SIGN IMMEDIATELY. WITH REGARD TO THE DEBT TIMETABLE, CISSOKO STATED THAT HE HAD PLANNED TO PRESENT IT HIMSELF IN WASHINGTON.
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TON, BUT THAT HE WOULD MAKE SURE THE EMBASSY RECEIVED A COPY

BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE. EMBASSY WILL REPORT ON RECEIPT OF TIMETABLES.

3. SHORTLY AFTER THE MEETING THE EMBASSY WAS INFORMED THAT PRESIDENT TOURE HAD RECONFIRMED HIS DECISION TO HAVE THE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN WASHINGTON.

4. GUINEAN DELEGATION LED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKO WILL DEFINITELY DEPART CONAKRY MAY 3 ON SABENA. GUINEAN OFFICIAL STATED THAT TRAVEL PLANS FROM BRUSSELS TO WASHINGTON NOT YET FIRM, BUT THAT GUINEAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON WOULD INFORM DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GUINEAN OFFICIAL THOUGHT DELEGATION WOULD ARRIVE WASHINGTON MAY 5 OR 6.

5. WE BELIEVE THAT CISSOKO CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD MESSAGE CONVEYED TO HIM: I.E., (A) THAT RAPID SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT IN CONAKRY IS ESSENTIAL IN ORDER ASSURE DELIVERY OF COMMODITIES UNDER FY-74 PROGRAM; (B) THAT GOG URGENT REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL COMMODITIES TO ALLEVIATE SEVERE SHORTAGES WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED ONE WAY OR ANOTHER BY CONCLUSION OF PRESENT AGREEMENT; AND (C) THAT FIRM TIMETABLE FOR DEBT REPAYMENT IS ((BEGIN UNDERLINE)) SINE QUA NON ((END UNDERLINE)) FOR ANY PL-480 PROGRAM WHATSOEVER. WE THEREFORE BELIEVE WE HAVE DONE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, AT HIGHEST LEVEL POSSIBLE, UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES TO CARRY OUT DEPT'S INSTRUCTIONS. IF WE RECEIVE DEBT PAYMENT TIMETABLE AS PROMISED, WE WILL INFORM DEPT IMMEDIATELY. IF NO, WE AT LEAST HAVE WORD OF FORMIN, AND BY EXTENSION WORD OF PRESIDENT TOURE, THAT TIMETABLE HAS BEEN PREPARED AND WILL BE DELIVERED PERSONALLY BY CISSOKO ASAP IN WASHINGTON.

6. CISSOKO'S HANDS ARE OBVIOUSLY TIED NOW, BECAUSE PRESIDENT TOURE HAS SPOKEN. TOURE CLEARLY TAKING DIRECT PERSONAL INTEREST IN THIS MATTER, WHICH ONCE MORE HIGHLIGHTS GREAT IMPORTANCE PL-480 PROGRAM HAS TAKEN THIS YEAR FOR GOG. IT ALSO UNDERSCORES SEVERITY OF FOOD SHORTAGES HERE, WHICH IN ANY CASE ARE INCREASINGLY EVIDENT.

7. EMBASSY NOT AWARE OF HOW WASHINGTON SIGNING OF AGREEMENT WILL AFFECT NEGOTIATIONS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN CONAKRY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL FORWARD MINUTES OF NEGOTIATIONS ALONG WITH THE FRENCH TRANSLATION TO WYGANT, AF/W, BY POUCH LEAVING CONAKRY MAY 2 ARRIVING DEPT MAY 3, VIA POUCH KT-670, INVOICE C-16, UNDER REGISTRY 180227.
HAVERKAMP

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 02 MAY 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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